

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

March 8 @10:00 a.m.
Third Sunday of Lent
Rev. Matt Weiler
Matthew 25: 31-40

March 15 @10:00 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Rev. Julie Kline
Luke 23:32-43

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE OUR GUEST TODAY! If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Center.

Child care with trained and fully vaccinated staff is provided on the second floor for infants to 3-year-olds.

Worship activities for children can be found on a cart outside the side sanctuary doors.

LARGE PRINT Bibles and hymnals are available at the Park Street entrance.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the Welcome Center.

Today's service is being livestreamed. You can find previous recordings of worship services on our website (www. umc-kzo.org) under the Livestream tab, or find us on our YouTube page.

Church Staff

Rev. Julie Kline..... Lead Pastor
Rev. Matt Weiler ..... Community Formation
Jacqueline Stilger ..... Organist/Dir. of Music
Cari Beth Croak..... Associate Dir. of Music
Julia Librizzi.....Children & Families
Drew Bolton .....Bldg. Superintendent
Linda Hamill .....Office Manager
Christiane Stakely .....Office Assistant
Erika Jones.....Communications
Cody Collmenter ..... Bookkeeper
Bryan Heany..... AV Team Leader
Alison Ericson .....Building Host
Samantha Lee.....Building Host
Jacob Ericson .....Building Host
Eamon Bronson.....Building Host
Jim Tiffany.....Custodian
Ruth Butters..... Young Adult Resident

We are a Reconciling Congregation, Welcoming ALL.



Worship Leaders: Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Marilyn Barney, Ruth Butters, Julia Librizzi

Director of Music/Organist: Jacqueline Stilger
Associate Director of Music: Cari Beth Croak

Musicians: Chancel Singers and Karla Reichert, clarinetist

Acolyte: Grace Harthorn

Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Lucas McGinnis, Kennedy Hayes

We are always looking for A/V volunteers. Training is provided. All ages welcome. We'll work around your availability. Inquire with Bryan Heany for more information: bheany@umc-kzo.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The rosebud on the altar today is to welcome Mason, born February 18, 2026. His proud grandmother is Amie Jozwiak.

Easter tulip orders begin today! See bulletin insert for the order form. Additional order forms can be found at the welcome desk.

Perks - Please stop in the Perks Cafe area after worship for coffee, tea, and fellowship.

Children's Sunday School for preschool - 5th graders meets today in room 206 (second floor) following worship until 12:30pm.

Sunday School for infants - 4 year olds meets from 9:45am to 12:30pm in room 208.

Hot Potatoes 2.0: From March 1st to March 29th, the Adult Academy Class will look at another round of Hot Potatoes, this time based in the worship theme for Lent - "Roll Down Justice." John Boley will facilitate. We will look at Contextual Theology, Liberation and Gender-Based Theologies, Faith and Authoritarianism, and Christology. All are invited.

The Bernie Foulk Memorial Lenten Organ Recital Series will take place Thursdays at 12 noon in the Sanctuary during Lent. This week's performance will feature Dr. Peter Kurdziel, the Director of Music at Saint John's Episcopal Church in Grand Haven, MI. A reception with refreshments and a chance to meet the musician will follow. For information on the entire series, see the posters around the church!

Sundays with Pastor Julie: A Conversation with Ezra Klein & James Talarico - March 8 & 15, at 6:00 pm in the Parlor. Ezra Klein, political commentator and journalist, had a conversation with Texas State Representative James Talarico that aired on YouTube on January 13, 2026. It is rich with meaningful conversation as James

Talarico reclaims the core message of Christianity. All are invited to have a further conversation and reflection. We'll watch this interview in segments, followed by our own conversation about confronting Christian Nationalism with a vision of faith that resists exclusion, advances the common good, and embraces the call to love, justice, and inclusion. We seek to understand and respond to Christian Nationalism through a lens of authentic, justice-oriented Christianity.

March Mission of the Month: Diaper Drive
St Luke's Episcopal Church runs a diaper bank weekly to provide free diapers and wipes to those in need. Lack of these items is a public health and social justice issue in our community. The need is great for all sizes, but especially sizes 4, 5, and 6. Donations can be placed in the Mission of the Month box located by the food pantry. Thank you for supporting this important need!

Clean Water for Rural Nicaraguans: El Porvenir ("the future") will be one of our Easter offering recipients. El Porvenir provides tangible solutions to rural Nicaraguan communities that are committed to improving their access to clean water and sanitation facilities but lack the resources to do so. Jenna Saldana, the regional director for El Porvenir, will visit our church on Sunday, March 22. She will briefly thank the congregation for their support during worship, then lead an informational program during the Academy hour afterwards.

Splendid Suppers for Seven: Signup for another round of Splendid Suppers (and Lunches) for Seven is underway! We have several hosts who have offered to open their homes for us, beginning in late March and continuing throughout April. This is a great opportunity to get together with people in our church community that you might not already know! Look for drop boxes and sign-up strips at the welcome desk. As previous attendees will tell you, conversation and laughter flow easily! We hope you'll join in the fun.

Mosaics of Words and Glass mobile - You may have already noticed the grouping of mobiles outside the sanctuary doors. This project was part of the "Our Story is Never Over" series. The mobiles began as circles of colored glass, representing the different stages of a dandelion's life cycle and symbolizing resilience, transformation, and hope. Made by 30 individuals, they are as unique as snowflakes—and as each one of us! As part of the final "Pivot" in this series, the mobiles will be featured, along with other stories, poems and written reflections that have been created during this project, in a dramatic production to be written by local playwright Buddy Hannah and our own Jennifer Clark. Watch the bulletin board and easel for more information!

March 1, 2026

10:00 a.m.

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

212 S. Park Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

269.381.6340
umc-kzo.org

ROLL DOWN JUSTICE
Second Sunday of Lent

Psalm 13

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

We would like to connect with you. Please fill out the attendance pad located at the end of the pews and introduce yourself as you pass it to your neighbor. You are invited in these beginning moments to use the green prayer cards found in the pews. The cards will be collected by an usher during the opening hymn to be shared with clergy.

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Grave and Adagio from Sonata II (Opus 65 Nr. 2) (Felix Mendelssohn)

WELCOME

Rev. Julie Kline

THE CALL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Our acolytes light the Christ Candle to remember Jesus as the light of the world—conquering darkness and offering new life.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ruth Butters

One: Holy and Living God, we open to you this day.

ALL: May peace flow. Let justice roll.

One: Wake us from our slumber and help us see.

ALL: May peace flow. Let justice roll.

One: Let no one feel outside Your love, outside our love.

ALL: May peace flow. Let justice roll.



Words and music by Mark Miller based on "Roll Down Justice" © Choristers Guild 2015. Used with permission.

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

You are invited to turn to your neighbor and greet them with gestures and words of peace, such as "Peace be with you." This practice symbolizes reconciliation, unity, and the sharing of Christ's love amongst our community.

**LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE**

**MUSICAL RESPONSE** *May Peace Flow* (Thompson/Miller)

Chancel Singers

**WE PROCLAIM**

**A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL**

Julia Librizzi

Blessing the Children:

One: No matter what, you are a child of God.

**ALL: God knows you by name and loves you very much.**

**A WORD FOR HUMANITY**

**SCRIPTURE** Psalm 13 (CEB)

Ruth Butters

This is what the spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God!**

**HYMN** *Wait for the Lord* (Taizé)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

Text: Isaiah 40, Philippians 4, Matthew 6-7; Taizé Community, 1984 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994 © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent Used with permission OneLicense A-717536

**PRAYER POEM<sup>1</sup>** "Perfecting" (Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling)

**HYMN** *Wait for the Lord* (Taizé)

**SERMON** "Resisting and Restoring"

**HYMN #2219** *Goodness Is Stronger than Evil*

(FWS - black hymnal)

**WE RESPOND**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

Rev. Julie Kline & Rev. Marilyn Barney

All are invited to come to this feast where there is enough—enough room around the table, enough grace for all, no matter what your journey has been—indeed, where *you are is enough*.

One: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**SANCTUS** *Musical Setting C*, p. 21

(UMH-red hymnal)

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION** p. 22

(UMH-red hymnal)

**SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

*As you come forward to receive the bread and the cup, lay your piece of cloth with its proclamation of new birth in Christ within the woven basket, offering it as prayer.*

**COMMUNION ANTHEM** *Draw Near, Receive, Give Thanks* (Arr. Carlton Young from *Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813)

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *O Love How Deep, How Broad, How High* (arr. Bradley Ellingboe)

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, whose ho-ly jus - tice shines! Whose mer-cy through all a - ges binds; Through Christ our love and hope in - crease; All glo - ry be to God, our peace.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

One: For the gift of righteous indignation that can fuel our compassion,

**ALL: we give thanks.**

One: For these offerings which can become ways to alleviate injustice,

**ALL: we give thanks.**

One: For the gift of this community bound and working together,

**ALL: we give thanks.**

**OUR SHARED LIFE**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #121** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

(UMH-red hymnal)

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Fugue in C Major from Sonata II (Opus 65 Nr. 2)* (Felix Mendelssohn)

*At the close of worship, the acolytes take the Light of Christ down the center aisle to symbolize that as Christ's followers, we bear the Light of Christ to the world.*

*UMH - United Methodist Hymnal FWS-The Faith We Sing*

<sup>1</sup>Prayer/Poem © Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling. Used with permission for "Roll Down Justice" Lent series by the Worship Design Studio.

**MISSION**

- We are called to:
- Experience God's love
  - Celebrate God's love
  - Share God's love

**VISION**

We are a Christ-centered community where our stories are woven with God's story.

**CORE VALUES**



**Love:** God is Love and all creation is made in love, by love, and for love.



**Community:** Sacred relationship with God and one another



**Inclusion:** All identities belong and are love in Christ.



**Justice:** Restoration of equity and wholeness.

**THIS WEEK'S EVENTS**

- Sunday, March 1**  
 10:00 am Worship Service - Sanctuary  
 11:00 am Sunday School for all ages  
 6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center

- Monday, March 2**  
 11:40 am Similarities (NA) - Wesley Hall  
 6:00 pm SPRC meeting - Parlor/Zoom

- Tuesday, March 3**  
 9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom  
 11:40 am Similarities (NA) - Wesley Hall  
 12:30 pm Staff meeting - Parlor  
 4:15 pm First Beats - Choir Room  
 4:30 to 6:30 pm - Food pantry open  
 6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

- Wednesday, March 4**  
 8:00 am Yoga - Zoom  
 9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor  
 10:00 am Olli meeting - Fellowship Room  
 11:40 am Similarities (NA) - Wesley Hall  
 12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live  
 12:30 to 2:30 - Food pantry open

- Thursday, March 5**  
 9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Room  
 11:40 am Similarities (NA) - Wesley Hall  
 12 noon Lenten Concert - Sanctuary  
 1:00 pm DOCC meeting - Parlor  
 1:00 pm Disciple Bible Study - Fellowship Rm.  
 5:45 pm Handbell Choir - Wesley Hall  
 7:15 pm Chancel Singers - Choir room